



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington, MA 02476
Phone: 781-316-3000

webmaster@town.arlington.ma.us

Minutes 04/09/2014

ARLINGTON TREE COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 9, 7:30 PM, Town Hall, Selectmen's Hearing Room

Present: Sally Naish,, Mike Rademacher. Clarissa Rowe, Eliza Burden

1. Welcome
2. February and March Meeting Minutes. Approval delayed until May.
3. Brian Murray's Tree.
 - § Tree has arrived at the DPW yard.
 - § Sally has marked the planting location with a stake and a painted circle.
 - § DPW will plant the tree ASAP and we will follow with a ceremony.
 - § Clarissa to contact J Dodge about:
 - § Willingness to "lead" ceremony
 - § Contacting family to ask about date (possibly morning of April 26) and who should be included in ceremony
 - § Availability/date for ceremony
 - § Discussion about who to invite to ceremony:
 - § Family
 - § Friends of Robbins Park
 - § Baseball team (Eric Ammondsson)
 - § Tree Committee
 - § Jim Dodge
 - § Others? (Clarissa to ask Jim Dodge)
 - § Plaque:
 - § Will be three lines: Line 1: American Elm (2014), Line 2: In Memory of, Line 3: Arborist Brian Murray
 - § Sally will send plaque details (black screw-in type) and text to Leslie Mayer for the ok, and will cc Joe Connelly
 - § Order Tag once the ok is in place
4. Spring Tree Planting - Update from DPW. Mike Rademacher explained that the DPW is planning on using a contractor to plant trees this spring. Bids are due in from the contractor(s) by April 10 for planting to be undertaken by May 15. MR will ask them to plant the trees, circulate watering instructions if possible, install gators (at an additional \$20 per tree), and guarantee the trees for a year. He estimates that the \$40K will be used to plant 140-160 trees this spring by a contractor.
5. Update on Tree Warden. No update
6. Publicity. Website was updated this past winter 2014. We discussed again the possibility of starting a "Friends of Arlington Trees" page on Facebook as an effort to do more Community Outreach. It could be used to report on tree activity in town, send watering reminders, share photographs and tree-related articles. Clarissa and MR were in support of this effort. Eliza will proceed.

7. Other Business

- o Symmes Woods. Clarissa mentioned that the Arlington Land Trust now controls an 8.8 ac site called Symmes Woods, that used to be the town nursery (of Norway maples), so the woods now consist of mostly Norway maples. Clarissa would love input from the tree committee as to how to phase out the Norway maples (through selective cutting) and introduce other species (including fast growing evergreens). Abutters are very sensitive about this area and are very fearful that the buffer between them and the new Symmes development will be removed too abruptly. Clarissa and Kathy Garnett of the DCR have an idea about dividing the area into quadrants and handling one quadrant at a time.
- o Tree Inventory. There was more discussion about a possible inventory. Eliza reported that she and Liz met with Adam Kurowski in February to continue developing the inventory. Adam has entered the planting data (from Spring and Fall 2013 that was forwarded from the DPW) into the "inventory." This info is in place as a pilot study. Adam K recommended that the DPW continue to track planting data in an Excel format. Spring 2014 planting data should be forwarded to Adam. Eliza will share a copy of the program (as it exists now) for Clarissa's review
- o Boy Scouts involvement. Eliza mentioned that the scouts were eager to participate with tree planting if it was an option. MR said that DPW could order a few extra trees and let the Boy Scouts plant them. He suggested they might plant them at the facility where they meet or at an elementary school. Other ideas for them were: connecting with the Conservation Commission about their Land Stewards program: participating in cleanups, such as those at MRP, or Spy Pond Park; and talking to Charlotte Milan about what they could take on re: recycling or Sustainable Arlington efforts.

Next meeting: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 at 7:30 pm in Selectmen's Hearing Room